

IN THE CLAIMS

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

س و د > Claim 1 (currently amended): An assembly comprising:

a first object and a second object; and

support means for supporting the first object above the second object, the support means including first, second[[,]] and third protrusions protruding from the first object and first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions protruding from the second object,

wherein each protrusion of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first object and each protrusion of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions of the second object have ~~an end with a virtually sphere-segment shaped extremity~~ a substantially spherically-shaped extremity[[,]] and ~~wherein~~ when the first and second objects are in an operational position so that the first object is above the second object, ~~then the virtually sphere-segment shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first object are in contact with ~~the virtually sphere-segment shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions, respectively, of the second object.

Claim 2 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 1, wherein ~~the virtually sphere-segment shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremity of each of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first object has a center and together the centers of ~~the virtually sphere-segment shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first object define vertices of a first triangle.

Claim 3 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 2, wherein ~~the virtually sphere-segment shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremity of each

protrusion of the first, second[,.] and third pairs of protrusions of the second object has a center such that midpoints of connecting lines between the centers of the ~~virtually sphere-segment-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of each pair of protrusions of the first, second[,.] and third pairs of protrusions define vertices of a second triangle, the second triangle being substantially identical to the first triangle defined by the centers of the ~~virtually sphere-segment-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[,.] and third protrusions of the first object.

Claim 4 (canceled)

Claim 5 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 1, wherein each protrusion of the first, second[,.] and third protrusions of the first object and each protrusion of the first, second[,.] and third pairs of protrusions of the second object are formed by metal balls, ~~all of~~ the metal balls being partially embedded into either the first object or the second object.

Claim 6 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 5, wherein ~~all of~~ the metal balls have a ~~virtually~~ substantially equal diameter.

Claim 7 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 1, further comprising fastening means for mutually fastening the first and second objects in the operational position[[s]] thereof.

Claim 8 (previously presented): The assembly according to claim 7, wherein the fastening means include any one of a screwed connection, a spring, and a magnet.

Claim 9 (canceled)

Claim 10 (currently amended): A method for supporting a first object on a second object[,.] ~~the method~~ comprising the steps of:

making first, second[,.] and third indentations in the first object;

subsequently fitting first, second[,] and third metal balls each having a substantially ball-shaped extremity into the first, second[,] and third indentations, respectively, made in the first object, wherein a center of each of the first, second[,] and third metal balls of the first object defines a vertex of a first triangle;

making first, second[,] and third pairs of indentations in the second object;

subsequently fitting a substantially ball-shaped extremity of each of the first, second[,] and third pairs of metal balls into the first, second[,] and third pairs of indentations, respectively, made in the second object, wherein the substantially ball-shaped extremity of each metal ball of the first, second[,] and third pairs of the metal balls has a center and midpoints between connecting lines connecting the centers of each pair of the metal balls of the first, second[,] and third pairs of the metal balls define vertices of a second triangle which is ~~virtually~~ substantially identical to the first triangle; and

placing the substantially ball-shaped extremity of each of the first, second[,] and third metal balls of the first object into supporting contact on the substantially ball-shaped extremities of the first, second[,] and third pairs of the metal balls, respectively, of the second object.

Claim 11 (currently amended): An assembly comprising:

a first plate supported above a second plate; and

~~supporting members~~ a supporting device configured to support the first plate above the second plate, the ~~supporting members~~ supporting device including first, second[,] and third protrusions protruding from the first plate and first, second[,] and third pairs of protrusions protruding from the second plate,

wherein each protrusion of the first, second[,] and third protrusions of the first plate and each protrusion of the first, second[,] and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate

have ~~an end with a virtually sphere segment shaped~~ a substantially spherically-shaped extremity, and ~~wherein~~ when the first and second plates are in an operational position so that the first plate is above the second plate, ~~then the virtually sphere segment shaped the~~ substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first plate are in contact with ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially~~ spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions, respectively, of the second plate.

Claim 12 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 11, wherein ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially spherically-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremity of each of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first plate has a center and together the centers of ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially spherically-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first plate define vertices of a first triangle.

Claim 13 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 12, wherein ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially spherically-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremity of each protrusion of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate has a center such that midpoints of connecting lines between the centers of ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially spherically-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of each pair of protrusions of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions define vertices of a second triangle, the second triangle being substantially identical to the first triangle defined by the centers of ~~the virtually sphere segment shaped the substantially spherically-shaped~~ the substantially spherically-shaped extremities of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first plate.

Claim 14 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 11, wherein each protrusion of the first, second[[,]] and third protrusions of the first plate and each protrusion of the first, second[[,]] and third pairs of protrusions of the second plate are formed by metal

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balls, ~~all of~~ the metal balls being partially embedded into either the first plate or the second plate.

Claim 15 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 14, wherein ~~all of~~ the metal balls have a ~~virtually~~ substantially equal diameter.

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(cont'd)
Claim 16 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 11, further comprising ~~fastening member~~ a fastening device configured to mutually fasten the first and second plates in the operational position[[s]] thereof.

Claim 17 (currently amended): The assembly according to claim 16, wherein the ~~fastening member include~~ fastening device includes any one of a screwed connection, a spring, and a magnet.

Claim 18 (canceled)